

I extend to them my heartfelt condolences and pray that God's holy spirit will comfort them and mend their broken hearts. Today, we honor a life of service.

Harry, we love you.

HONORING KEVIN VALENCIA

(Mrs. DEMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Orlando Police Officer Kevin Valencia.

As a former chief in Orlando, I join my brothers and sisters at OPD and Kevin's wife, Meghan, and their two sons in expressing gratitude for his service and in mourning his passing.

In 2018, Officer Valencia responded to a domestic violence call involving a convicted felon armed with a firearm who was holding four children hostage. Upon trying to gain entry and save the children, Kevin was shot and critically wounded. The subject later took the lives of those children.

Kevin fought hard to survive but succumbed to his injuries on March 15 of this year.

We use the word "hero" often, and sometimes I think we forget the many heroic actions our men and women in blue perform every day. But Officer Kevin Valencia was a hero in every sense of the word.

On March 15, a part of America died. We are grateful for a life well lived. Courage, pride, and commitment.

RECOGNIZING FRANK BECKMANN

(Mr. WALBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the upcoming retirement of a legend in Michigan broadcasting, Frank Beckmann.

For the past 48 years, Frank has been a pillar of the WJR airwaves. Frank has been inducted into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame and Michigan Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame, and he has a list of professional accolades longer than the time we have today.

The Maize and Blue faithful know him as the voice of Michigan football for over three decades. His weekly listeners, the best informed in all of talk radio, know him as a clear and compelling proponent of commonsense values. Nonprofits and charities across the State know his generosity in using his microphone to support many worthy causes. I am blessed to know him as a friend.

Congratulations, Frank, on a long and storied career.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Frank Beckmann a wonderful retirement filled with family, lots of golf, and coolers full of fresh Lake Erie walleye.

RESTORING NORMAL RELATIONS WITH CUBA

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge President Biden to move quickly and comprehensively to restore U.S.-Cuban relations.

The last 2 years of the Obama administration saw an explosion of positive change in Cuba. The fledgling Cuban private sector flourished. Innovation, the internet, communications, and political space expanded. And exchanges between our two peoples multiplied.

Official cooperation advanced significantly on law enforcement, antinarcotics, migration, human trafficking, and the environment. Dialogues began on tough topics like economic reform and human rights.

Tragically, these advances were wiped out by President Trump. Today, we need strong, levelheaded leadership capable of rebuilding trust, navigating a return to normal relations, and advancing U.S. interests.

We need to immediately end restrictions on travel; remittances; financial transactions; and educational, scientific, environmental, and cultural exchange.

We must remove Cuba again from the state sponsors of terrorism list and rescind any sanction that impedes the delivery of humanitarian aid.

Let's not make the mistake of moving slowly and incrementally. We need to act now. I call on the Biden administration to make this a priority.

SECURE THE SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, there is an undeniable crisis along our southern border, and the most recent numbers we have received are alarming.

Last month, there were over 100,000 illegal immigrants encountered at our border. That is a 173 percent increase from the same time last year and the highest number of encounters in 7 years.

From January to February of this year, we saw a 163 percent increase of family unit encounters, a 61 percent increase in unaccompanied minors, and a 28 percent increase in encounters overall.

This surge is a direct result of the Biden administration's failure to secure our border and enforce our immigration laws.

Now we face a humanitarian crisis. While the President refuses to acknowledge this dire situation, my Democratic colleagues are turning a deaf ear by advancing two bills this week to grant blanket amnesty to millions of illegals. Are you kidding me?

This sends the wrong message that our borders are open and that our laws

don't matter, which will only incentivize more illegal immigration. It is time to build a wall, end policies like catch and release, and oppose mass amnesty. We must secure our border.

DREAMERS MUST BE SUPPORTED

(Mr. SUOZZI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago, my father was born in a small medieval village in the mountaintops of southern Italy.

He came to America as a young boy, and in his St. Dominic's High School senior yearbook, he wrote that his goal in life was "to become a real American."

Twenty-seven years ago, I served as the young mayor of my hometown of Glen Cove. I addressed the issue of a growing population of new immigrants from Central and South America who gathered on street corners looking for daywork by creating the first day-worker site anywhere on the East Coast of the United States of America.

Today, those same men who gathered on street corners have their own businesses, own their own homes, and their children went to school with my children.

One Dreamer from El Salvador, who graduated high school with my daughter, went on to graduate from college with a degree in biomedical engineering, got a master's in biomedical engineering, and is now pursuing a doctorate in the same subject.

Today, I will support the American Dream and Promise Act, for Mario, for Nelson, and for all the other Dreamers whose goal is, like my father's, to become a real American.

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CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF FRANK CAGLE

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, Frank Cagle, my close friend and a good Libertarian conservative, passed away after a battle with cancer.

Frank was a brave American who served with the 82nd Airborne during the Vietnam war. Following his service, he attended college and worked for newspapers across the South.

In 1982, Frank came to east Tennessee to work at the Knoxville News Sentinel as a copy editor. His passion was reporting on State and local politics. Frank put his commentary into action, serving as deputy to Knoxville Mayor, Victor Ashe, and working as campaign manager on Congressman Van Hilleary's 2002 bid for Governor.

He later returned to journalism, writing columns and analyzing policy for Knoxville TN Today, WATE, and back at the Knoxville News Sentinel. Frank

focused his career on delivering unbiased political reporting, and his contributions will leave a long-lasting impression on all of us in east Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to celebrate Frank's life and recognize his dedication to our community on the House floor.

Rest in peace, my good friend.

FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, federally qualified health centers are located in neighborhoods, connecting to people where they live and where families today are struggling.

Health centers in my western New York community—Neighborhood Health Center, Community Health Center of Buffalo and Niagara Falls, Jericho Road Health Center, and Evergreen Health Services—are on the front lines in the fight against COVID-19 and the ongoing battle to end health disparities.

This week, I met with several of these health centers, hearing firsthand about the role that telehealth, primary care, outreach, education have in providing better health outcomes.

Today, I am pleased to announce over \$3.5 million in resources to help Federal health centers in western New York continue to battle the pandemic and protect our neighborhoods. This funding, provided through the American Rescue Plan, will help support the health center workforce and deliver testing, treatment, and vaccines to help our communities and keep them safe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AGUILAR). Members are reminded to observe decorum when speaking before the House.

INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

(Mr. MCCARTHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I have grave concerns about the current composition of the Intelligence Committee. The Intel Committee handles our Nation's highest secrets. It has access to information that most Members do not see. And unlike standing committees, Members of the majority are appointed by the Speaker only.

That is why Members who are appointed to this important committee must possess the highest level of credibility and character, and it is why no Member should be compromised in any way.

Unfortunately, information that I have seen and that others have seen suggests that not all Members meet this high standard. So earlier this week, I introduced a resolution to re-

store confidence in the Intel Committee's ability to safeguard our Nation's secrets.

Now, I do not take this action lightly or for political reasons. Frankly, I am surprised that it had to come to this. The Speaker and I received the same classified briefing from the FBI. The details were deeply disturbing. Yet, so far, the allegations, which have not been denied, have gone unaddressed.

As the House considers this question, I hope all Members will reflect on the purpose and responsibilities of the select panel. I want all Members to ask this one question:

Should a Member who can't get a security clearance in the private sector sit on the House Intelligence Committee?

Think about that for one moment.

Should a Member who cannot get a security clearance in the private sector sit on the House Intelligence Committee?

The American people deserve to know that their government is not vulnerable.

Mr. Speaker, by adopting my resolution, we will show that we have our priorities straight. I urge my colleagues to support it.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, this week, I was so proud to welcome President Joe Biden to our district to see firsthand the impact the American Rescue Plan will have on our community and small businesses in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and to see the enthusiasm with which his visit was welcomed.

Together, we visited Smith Flooring, a successful, minority-owned small business in Chester that provides good union jobs and is an economic driver in an area that has struggled. The President and I spoke with founders Kristin and James Smith about how the COVID pandemic has impacted their business. The struggling economy has meant leaner times, but they are trying to do right by their employees until things get moving again.

The American Rescue Plan has over \$50 billion in aid for small businesses, including over \$7 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program. These funds will help small businesses, like Smith Flooring, keep up their payroll, protect jobs, and keep going until the economy is fully open again.

I wanted President Biden to see up close one of the Delco businesses that is the backbone of our economy. Thank you to Smith Flooring for talking with President Biden and me. And equally important, I wanted to thank Congress and President Biden for bringing renewed help and hope to our community with the American Rescue Plan.

NATIONAL RED CROSS MONTH

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize March as National Red Cross Month.

While Red Cross Month has been celebrated since 1943, the Red Cross itself has been making an impact on community health since 1881.

In 1889, Clara Barton led one of the first mobilizations to a national disaster following the Johnstown Flood. This site is in the process of being preserved today and is known as the Clara Barton House.

Perhaps the organization's best-known program, the American Red Cross, established the first nationwide civilian blood donation program in the 1940s.

According to the organization, someone in the United States needs blood every 2 seconds. Less than 38 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to give blood, and only 3 percent of those individuals donate annually. The critical need for blood and the lifesaving potential that comes with a donation cannot be overstated.

The American Red Cross has always been a leader in this effort, and, today, they still provide more than 40 percent of the blood products in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage all healthy Americans to donate blood and plasma. In the wake of the pandemic, it is needed now more than ever.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this week, House Democrats are building on the progress made under the Biden-Harris administration to reverse the Trump damage and reform our failing system by passing two historic and important bills:

H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act to protect Dreamers, TPS, and DED recipients; and the Farm Workforce Modernization Act to uphold the dignity of workers who feed America.

Americans want solutions on immigration. Voters overwhelmingly support a path to citizenship, reforms to our legal immigration system, smart management of our borders. Just like with the American Rescue Plan, there is strong bipartisan support for immigration reform across the country, just not within this body.

For too long, we have kept our arms closed to people who, under similar circumstances 100 years ago, 30 years ago, would have been given a path to citizenship. But now the doors are closed.

Mr. Speaker, 55,000 Haitians came to this country after the earthquakes.